

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PANAMA 09133 231652Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SAB-02 /044 W  
-----004248 231701Z /44  
P R 231606Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5043  
INFO PANCANAL  
USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 9133

DEPT FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN

USCINCSO FOR J-2 AND PAO

PANCANAL FOR IO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PN  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTIONS

FOLLOWING FROM USIS PANAMA P R 231604Z DEC 77 SENT ACTION  
USINFO WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO:

QUOTE UNCLAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

MEDIA REACTION

1-PRO-GOP CRITICA DEC. 23 EDIT WELCOMES JAN. 3 VISIT OF SENTATE  
MINORITY LEADER HOWARD BAKER, AT INVITATION OF GEN. TORRIJOS.  
INVITATION AND BAKER'S ACCEPTANCE ARE APPROPRIATE, EDIT SAYS,  
IN VIEW OF FACT THAT SINCE TREATY WAS SIGNED, "SOME US SENATORS,  
WHO BY CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE, HAVE ON THEIR CONSCIENCES THE  
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PAGE 02 PANAMA 09133 231652Z

DECISION OF THE FUTURE OF THEIR COUNTRY AND OURS, HAVE BECOME  
RETICENT AND COME TO PANAMA TO SCRUTINIZE EVERYTHING, TO MEASURE  
OUR GOVERNMENT WITH THE NEW YARDSTICK OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH HAVE  
NEVER BEEN PRACTICED IN THE CANAL AREA."

2-CRITICA CONCLUDES THAT TORRIJOS' INVITATION AND BAKER'S REPLY  
ARE PROPER WAY TO INVITE SENATORS, "WHEN THEY WEIGH THEIR

DECISIONS IN THE BALANCE AND ARE NOT GLUED TO TROGLODITE CRITERIA  
LIKE RONALD REAGAN. FORTUNATELY SEN. BAKER HAS A GREAT DEAL OF  
INTELLIGENCE AND CULTURE..."

3-DEC. 23 SEMI-INDEPENDENT LA ESTRELLA EDIT ONCE MORE CALLS  
FOR ADVANCE PLANNING FOR EVENTUAL PANAMANIAN TAKEOVER OF CANAL,  
CAUTIONING PANAMANIAN NOT TO WAIT UNTIL LAST MINUTE: "IT WOULD  
SEEM THAT THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES...ARE WAITING FOR  
RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY BY THE US SENATE, IN ORDER TO BEGIN  
THE PERTINENT STUDIES FULL STEAM AHEAD."

4-ESTRELLA CONCLUDES, "LET IT NOT BE SAID TOMORROW THAT THE  
AMERICANS ARE UNILATERALLY APPLYING THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE  
NEW AGREEMENT, WHEN IT TAKES EFFECT. IT IS WORTH REMEMBERING THAT  
OUR MORE OUTSTANDING ECONOMISTS HAVE WARNED THAT BEST TAKING  
ADVANTAGE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT THAT THE CANAL ZONE  
OFFERS US DEPENDS ON OUR CAPACITY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TOOLS  
WHICH THE NEW TREATY OFFERS US." ITEM UNQUOTE  
JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PANAMA09133  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770479-1231  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 139153  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDIA REACTIONS FOLLOWING FROM USIS PANAMA P R 231604Z DEC 77 SENT ACTION USINFO WASHDC INFO SECSTATE  
WASHDC REPEATED FOR YO  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a5becafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009